

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF PREVENTION, PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

ORIGINAL SIGNED 10-12-04

Laurie Allen Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources National Marine Fisheries Service - 13<sup>th</sup> floor 1315 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Allen,

The Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), respectfully requests the initiation of Endangered Species Act (ESA) section 7(a)(2) formal consultation. This consultation request addresses 11 Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) of salmon listed as endangered or threatened and uses of one pesticide registered by EPA under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). The pesticide subject to this request is the active ingredient **glyphosate** which is registered as a non-selective herbicide used within the range of the subject species. Our long term intent is to make effects determinations and consult, as appropriate, relative to all listed species and locations. However, as per agreement with the National Marine Fisheries Service, this request is limited to this particular listed salmon and uses identified.

Glyphosate is a widely used pesticides in the United States. The types of application sites include row crops, field crops, grasses, and orchards as well as, agricultural uncultivated areas, ornamentals, industrial sites and turf, recreational sites, and urban areas.

The Agency determined that glyphosate "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" the subject ESU's based on acute toxicity to fish for uses with application rates above 5 lb ai/A. For all uses with application rates of 5 lb ai/A or below, the Agency has determined that glyphosate will have No Effect on the subject listed species. Despite our finding of may affect,

but not likely to adversely affect these species, I am requesting formal consultation on this determination. My request for such consultation is compelled by the language in a Consent Decree into which the Agency entered with the Californians' for Alternatives to Toxics (CATs), regarding the potential effects of various pesticides' uses on plants and on certain listed salmon or steelhead.

We look forward to working with NMFS to protect and help recover listed species. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (703) 305-5239.

Enclosure

Sincerely,

Arthur-Jean B. Williams, Chief Environmental Field Branch (7506C)

cc: Craig Johnson